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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: K.L. Cooper et al. Attorney Docket No.: MEYP122012

Application No.: 10/722,384 Group Art Unit: 1761

Filed: November 25, 2003

Title: ULTRA-HIGH-PRESSURE VEGETABLE STERILIZATION  
METHOD AND PRODUCTINFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

May 24, 2004

## TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Applicants are aware of the information listed in the attached form that may be material to the prosecution of the above-identified patent application.

1. X Copies of the listed Japanese publication and other information are enclosed for the Examiner's use.
2. X A concise explanation of the relevance of document Cite No. O3 (which is not in the English language), as presently understood by the individual designated under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) most knowledgeable about its content, is provided as follows:  
  
Cite No. O3 relates to the high-pressure treatment of alimentary products. This reference discusses applying high-pressure sterilization to food products and is cumulative with respect to the disclosure of Reference O2.
3. X Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a sealed envelope as first class mail with postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date.

Date: May 24, 2004  
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INFORMATION CITED BY APPLICANTS THAT MAY BE MATERIAL TO THE  
PROSECUTION OF THE SUBJECT APPLICATION

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METHOD AND PRODUCT

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document No.	Kind Code	Date (mm/dd/yyyy)	Name
	U1	6,017,572	A	01/25/2000	Meyer
	U2	6,086,936	A	06/11/2000	Wilson et al.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initial	Cite No.	Document No.	Kind Code	Publication Date (mm/dd/yyyy)	Country	English Abstract Provided	Translation Provided
	F1	JP H02-257865	A	10/18/1990	JP		X

OTHER INFORMATION

(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

*Examiner Initial	Cite No.	
	O1	Bihari, V., et al., "Fed Batch Cultivation of <i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i> var. <i>kurstaki</i> ," <i>J. Microb. Biotechnol.</i> 6(2):92-99, 1991.
	O2	Carpi, G., et al., "Prove di Stabilizzazione di Prodotti Alimentari Mediante l'Impiego Delle Alte Pressioni," Atti del Workshop <i>L'Impiego delle Alte Pressioni nell'Industria Alimentare</i> , CNR-RAISA FLAIR-FLOW EUROPE (sottoprogetto 4), Parma, Italy, May 1995, pp. 77-91 (English translation: "Tests of Stabilization of Alimentary Products by Means of Employment of High Pressure").

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- O3 Dall'Aglio, G., "Le Alte Pressioni Nei Prodotti Alimentari," *Stazione Sperimentale per l'Industria delle Conserve Alimentari*, pp. 23-26, as early as 1994.
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- O4 Gould, G.W., "Inactivation of Spores in Food by Combined Heat and Hydrostatic Pressure," *Acta Alimentaria* 2(4):377-388, 1973.
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- O5 Mertens, B.A., "Under Pressure," *Food Manufacture*, November 1992, pp. 23-24.
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- O6 Morris, C.E., "High Pressure Builds Up," *Food Engineering* 65(10):113-120, October 1993.
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- O7 Nakayama, A., et al., "Comparison of Pressure Resistances of Spores of Six *Bacillus* Strains With Their Heat Resistances," *Applied and Environmental Microbiology* 62(10):3897-3900, October 1996.
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- O8 Rovere, P., "The Third Dimension of Food Technology," *Tecnologie Alimentari* 4:1-9, 1995.
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- O9 Träff, A., and C. Bergman, "High Pressure Equipment for Food Processing," in C. Balny et al. (eds.), *High Pressure and Biotechnology*, Vol. 224, Colloque INSERM/John Libbey Eurotext Ltd., 1992, pp. 509-514.

\*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. § 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicants.